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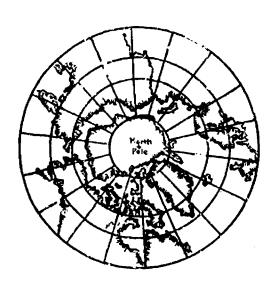
GRADES OR AGES: Grade 5. SUBJECT MATTER: Social studies; physical geography of the United States and Canada. ORGANIZATION AND PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: The major portion of the guide, which develops the unit, is laid out in three columns, one each for topics, activities, and materials. Other sections are in list form. The guide is mimeographed and staple-bound with a paper cover. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES: General objectives for the unit are listed on the first page. Each group of activities in the second column is related to a topic in the first column. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: Each group of materials listed in the third column is related to one or more activities. STUDENT ASSESSMENT: A one-page section entitled "Evaluation" lists ideas students should understand and skills they should possess at the end of the unit. OPTIONS: The guide is prescriptive as to course content and timing. Activities and materials listed are optional. (RT)



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PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTIC: RESOURCE UNIT 11 GRADE 5



RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



RU, II - Gr. 5

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PHYSICAL CHARAGERISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

SUGGESTED TIME 7-8 WEEKS

1. MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS

- The children should understand that topography, climate patterns, and natural resources are related to living conditions, distribution of population, and occupations.
- The children should realize that people have made changes in their environment to meet their needs.

II. AIMS

To develop an understanding of the following:

- The United States and Canada cover a vast land area with a great diversity of natural regions.
- Many of these natural regions are shared by Canada and the United States.
- 3. The United States and Canada have a great variety of natural resources.
- 4. Most of these two countries lie within the middle latitudes.
- The climatic patterns of the United States and Canada are generally favorable to economic and social development.
- Much of northern Canada is uninhabited due to poor climatic and soil conditions.
- There are several large river systems which have aided in the development of Caneda and the United States.
- 8. The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway has been developed through cooperative effort by the United States and Canada.
- 9. The opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway has created one of the longest inland waterways in the world and increased trade.
- 10. Population distribution in Canada and the United States has been influenced by climate, topography, and natural resources.
- 11. The north-south extension of the great mountain systems created tremendous problems in the development of transcontinental transportation and communication systems.
- 12. The interrelationships between people and environment have resulted in changes.



VOCABULARY

altitude

lock

Appalachien Mountains

mouth of river

Canadian Shield

obstacles

coastal plain

parallels

communication

plateau

continent

rapids

cross-section

relief

dam

river basin

delta

Saint Lawrence Seaway

isotherm

source of a river

Japanese Current

transcontinental

Labrador Current

tributary

latitude

tundra

vertical climate



DEVELOPMENT OF UNIT

QUESTIONS

What are the important physical characteristics of the United States and Canada?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Have the children locate and identify the major mountains, plateaus, lowlands, plains, rivers, lakes, large bays, harbors, and surrounding oceans on a wall map of North America.

On individual outline maps have the children place the features suggested above.

A study of this unit might be instigated by use of films or filmstrips suggested under materials.

Investigate the size of the United States and Canada.

How large is each country?

How do they compare in size with other countries of the world?

Have the class locate and investigate these land areas and their physical characteristics.

The Atlantic Coastal Plain Piedmont Plateau Appalachian Highlands Central Lowlands Great Plains Western Mountains Canadian Shield Arctic Tundra Gulf Coastal Plains

The filmstrips and film at the right might be shown.

Have the children make individual maps to show these land divisions.

MATERIALS

Wall map of North America

Individual outline maps of North America

Pilmstrips SS-C-17 Coast to Coast Goography from the Air SS-C-33-b Geographic Background Title II SS-C-65-a Introduction co Canada's Geography Title II SS-N-16-a Sea Coasts SS-N-16-b Mountains SS-N-16-c Bodies of Water SS-N-16-d Forest, Grasslands, Desert

Wall map

Teacher Texts Van Nostrand: World Geography and You Chapters 12&19 Heath: In these United States and Canada pp. 7-11 Burdett: United States and Canada See Land Macmillan: Living in the Americas pp. 18-19 Holt, Rinehart, & Winston: In the United States and Canada-See Index Scott Foresman: the Americas pp. 240-241



Development of Unit (cont'd.)

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
QUESTIONS	Place emphasis upon the fact that most of the land forms in Canada are extensions of those in the United States. Review the color key on a physical relief map so that they will understand its function in determining the height of the land. Study a cross-section of the continent from the east coast to the west coast. Have them notice the variations in altitude and relief of the land. Lave a group construct a three dimensional model of a map of the United States and Canada. Rave another group construct a three dimensional cross-section model of this area.	Filmstrips Title II (Canada) SS-C-65-b Atlanti Region SS-C-65-c Canadia Shield SS-C-65-d Interio Plains SS-C-65-e Gt. Lawrence Lowlands SS-C-65-f Western Mountain Regions SS-C-58 Canada's North SS-C-58-c Yukon SS-A-20-a Alaska SS-A-20-d Hawaii- Geographic Background SS-C-5-a Introduction to lowlards Film Canadian Rockies Heath: In the United States and Canada pp.7-11; 436-439 Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada pp. 20-24 Scott, Foresman: In the Americas pp. 12-14 Placmillan: Living in the Americas pp. 13-13 Silver Burdett: United States and



QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS	
What is the import-	On a large map locate the great	Wall Map.	
ance of the large	river systems	j	
river systems of		Heath: In the	
of the United States	Have class use the Rand McNally	United States and	
and Canada?	Classroom Atlas pp. 26-27.	<u>Canada</u>	
	·	pp. 307-308;	
	Trace each of these rivers from	402 - 403;	
	its source to its mouth.	436-437;490-491	
	Mississippi	Macmillan: Living	
	Columbia	in the Americas	
	Colorado	pp.20; 298-201	
	St. Lawrence	Holt, Rinehart &	
	Yukon	Winston:	
	Mackenzie	In the United	
		States and Canada	
	Be sure class understands these	pp. 116	
	terms:	Silver Burdett:	
	Sounce	United States and	
	mouth	Canada pp. 100-101	
	delta	Scott, Foresman:	
	basin	In the Americas	
	tributary	-See Rivers	
	Have groups do research on these	Encyclopedias	
	rivers:		
	Direction of flow	Outline Maps	
	Drainage		
	Important tributaries	ł	
	<u>Use</u>		
	Transportation	<u>Filmstrips</u>	
	Dam s	SS-C-58-e	
	Power Stations	lactenzie River	
		SS-M-15 Mighty	
	Report their findings orally to	Mississippi	
	the class.	,	
		Pilm	
	Prepare individual outline maps	R-301 Mississippi	
	showing these river, systems and	1	
	their tributaries.	!	
	Show filmstrips listed to the right,		
	farran ermineraba tracea en cile ryRise?	1	



RU,II - Gr. 5 Development of Unit (cont'd.)

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
Why has the development of the St. Lawrence Seaway been possible? What has been the effect of this development?	Locate the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes on the wall map. On individual maps place the names of the lakes and the St. Lawrence River. Trace the route a ship would take from the Atlantic Ocean through the lakes to Duluth, Minnesote, or to Chicago,	Teacher Texts Van Nostrand: World Geography and You, pp.112-114
	Have a group construct a chart. GREAT LAKES Name Area Depth of Lake	Macmillan: Living in the Americas pp. 104-105; 281 Burdett: United States and Canada pp. 163; 265 Scott, Foresman: In the Americas pp. 375-376 Heath: In These
	Have the children read their texts to find the problems that had to be overcome in the development of a seaway. Because the Great Lakes are at varying elevations, a series of waterfalls and rapids had to be by-passed. Canals and locks had to be built. To make it feasible for ocean going ships to travel through these canals, they had to be widered and the	United States and Canada pp. 370-371 Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada See St. Lawrence Seavay
RIC.	they had to be widened and the river channel deepened. This was done through cooperative effort of the United States and Canada. As a result, one of the longest inland waterways in the world was opened up.	



Development of Unit

(contd.))

QUESTIONS	SUGCESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
	It connects ports of the Great Lakes with the sea, thereby reducing the cost of shipping by eliminating the need to transfer cargos to other modes of transportation on their way inland. Have a group investigate locks	
;	and how they operate. Make a diagram of a lock. Have this group display the	
	diagram and explain locks. Diagrams of the Great Lakes and locks may be found in texts	Filmstrips SS-S-24-a Historica
	After reading the texts, have the class discuss the effect of the seaway upon trade.	Background of St. Lawrence Seaway SS-S-24-b Seaway Travel
	Use the filmstrips listed to the right as a culmination.	Large Wall Map
	Develop a cross-section scale model to show various elevations of lakes and the connecting locks.	Heath: <u>In the</u> <u>United States and</u> <u>Canada</u>
	Have class draw a diagram of the seaway for their own note- books.	
	Use a colored crayon to show the route of a ship through the sea-way to Duluth, Minnesota or to Chicago, Illinois.	
What factors influence climate and weather in	Discuss with class their under- standing of climate. Begin by identifying the climate regions.	Teacher-Van Nostrat World Geography and You. Chapters 3,4 6,13 & 20.



climate and weather in the United States and Canada?

Use Rand McNally Classroom Atlas p. 14. Elicit idea that Canada

Λ

Development of Unit (cont'd.)

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
	great variety of climates.	
What is the effect of latitude upon climate?	Make a study of latitude with the class. What does the term "parallel" wean?	Heath: In this United States and Canada. pp. 14-21 Scott Foresman: In the Americas
	Why do we use parallels of latitude?	pp. 240-241; 13 Macmillan: Living in the Americas pp. 21-25
	What is the system of numbering?	Burdett: <u>United</u> States and Canada pp. 15-16; 258; 26
	Have them trace parallels of latitude on the globe; then trace them on the flat map. (At this point you might compare globes with flat maps and explain why flat maps have variations)	Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada See climal Rand McNally: Gcode's Atlas p. 8
	Have them draw a diagram to represent a globe and starting with the equator, mark off parallels every ten degrees north and south of the equator to the poles.	
	Follow this with a study of the earth-sun relationship to show its effect upon temperature.	
	This can be a part of a science lesson. In a darkened room, shine a flashlight directly upon a flat surface. The circle of the light will be small, but very bright. Now tilt the flashlight so light falls upon the same place. Its beam will strike the table at a slant.	

not as bright,

At the equator the sun's rays strike the earth more directly than they do north and south of the equator.



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Development of Unit (cont'd.)

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
	This causes the land near the equator to be warmer.	
	At this point stress the mean- ing of the terms: 'low latitudes' 'middle latitudes' 'high latitudes'	Macmillan: Livin, in the Americas pp. 22-23
	On the diagram they drew to show latitudes, let them designate the belt of low latitudes, middle latitudes, and high latitudes using different colors for each.	
	Refer to map in Classroom Atlas p. 10-11. Find the latitudes of the United States and Canada.	
	Now far north and south does the U.S. and Canada extend? What does this indicate about the comperature of this area for habitability agricultural production, transportation, etc.	
What ia the effect of altitude	What is meant by vertical climate?	Heath: In Unite States and Conso p. 20
upon temperature?	As you go higher above sea level, the temperature decreases. The highlands on the equator are cool. This is called vertical climatic variation.	
	Stress the concept "vertical climate" in subsequent study.	
What effect has nearness to large bodies of	Have a group do research to answer this question and share the information with the class.	Heath: <u>In These</u> <u>United States as</u> <u>Canada</u> p. 20
water upon climate?	Water heats and cools more slowly than land. In the winter, winds from the ocean are warmer and cause coastal lands to be warmer than in-	Encyclopedias Science Books

	QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
D.	What effect have ocean currents upon tem-	Let small groups or individuals investigate the Labrador Current, the Gulf Stream, and the Japanese Current.	Heath: In these United States and Canada pp. 20-21
	perature?	Report to the class the effect these currents have upon the nearby land areas.	Encyclopedias
		Have them locate these currents on the large wall map.	
		Have the class add these currents to their individual maps.	
		Have the class examine the Rand McNally <u>Classroom</u> Atlas p. 28.	
		In their dictionaries have the class find the definition for <u>isotherm</u> .	
		Let them trace the isotherms in the atlas crossing the United States and Canada.	
		What do they tell us about the temperatures of the U.S. and Canad	a?
		Have the class bring in daily weather maps from the newspaper and study the isotherm lines.	Weather maps.
		These weather maps might be studied periodically throughout the year to show variation of the temperature in the same area with changes of season.	
		(Note particularly those for Providence)	
® RIC	·	On individual outline maps have the class place the iso-therms for average temperatures for the U.S. and Canada.	Individual outline mapss
110			



QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS	
What are the rainfall patterns for	Study the rainfall map on p. 28 of Rand McNally <u>Class</u> -room Atlas.	Encyclopedias Science Books	
Canada and the United States? Why?	Explain that rainfall is measured in inches. An individual might do research on the rain gauge and how it operates. He could report his findings to the class. Read the texts to discover the reasons for different patterns of rainfall in the United States and Canada. Prepare a chart to show rainfall patterns for dominate terrains in United States and Canada. Ex. Desert Grassland	Silver Burdett: United States and Canada. See Rain fall Macmillan: Livin in the Americas See Rainfall Heath: In these United States and Cansda pp. 14-15 42;411; 435-436. Scott Foresman: In the Americas See Climate Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada. See Climate Macmillan: In th	
	Forested areas	Americas, p. 32 Outline maps	
What effect has the north- south direction of mountain ranges upon the climate of the United States and Canada?	The United States and Canada are in the belt of westerly winds. Moisture is dropped on the western slopes of the moun-		
ino Calladat	Arid conditions prevail to the east of these mountains.		
	Develop idea of a <u>giant</u> <u>climate funnel</u> in land be- tween Rockies and Appalachians If winds come from the north they bring extreme cold; if from the gulf in the south; extreme heat. In this area		

great range of temperatures.



QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS	
	See <u>Classroom Atlas</u> p. 28. Locate the arid area east of the Rockies.		
	Have the class construct in- dividual rainfall maps of the U.S. and Canada.		
What effect do physical characteristics have upon transportation	Have the children examine the physical feature map in the Rand McNaily <u>Classroom Atlas</u> p. 27.	Silver Burdett: <u>United States</u> <u>and Canada</u> pp. 73; 192; 197-198	
and communi- cation in the United States	Have them notice the direct- ion in which the mountain ranges extend.	Scott Foresman In the Americas See <u>Trans</u> -	
and Canada?	Tell them that the earliest settlements were near the Atlantic. Eventually people had a desire to seek new land, which instigated movement to the interior.	portation Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada. pp. 17 194-195; 371. Macmillan:	
	Most movement up to this time was along the coast or inland short distances by boat, which was the easiest means of transportation.	Living in the Americas See Trans- portation	
	When people desired to move, their direction was westward in a land where mountains extended in a north-south direction.		
	What problems were presented?	Filmstrips SS-A-24	
	How effective were the people in overcoming these obstacles?	<u>American</u> <u>Transportation</u> Horseback to Je	
	Eventually gaps in the Appalachians were discovered,	SS-L-7-d Communication in United State	
	Some moved westward by using waterways where possible; the Hudson, the Mohawk, the Ohio,	SS-L-7-e Transportation in United State	
1	the Great Lakes		

the Great Lakes,

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
What is the distribution of population in the Ur6. and Canada?	As pioneers moved farther westward they faced further difficulties: . how to cross great open plains . how to cross arid deserts . how to cross the Western mountains Read to discover the trails they laid and what obstacles were overcome. Show filmstrips. Study map on p. 29 in the Classroom Atlas, Rand McNally Where are the areas of great- est population concentration? Why?	Scott Foresman: In the Americas See maps pp. 122 Scott Foresman: In the Americas pp. 240-241 Burdett: United States and Canad pp. 18-19;20-21 253; 271
	Re-examine the temperature map. Recall the previous study of nearness to ocean, ocean currents, latitude and altitude. Where do most Canadians live? (usually within belt of 200 miles of United States border) Why? Population shifts have occurred constantly in the United States. From 1790 on there has been a movement from rural to urban areas. Have the class speculate the reasons why this has	Heath: In these United States are Canada p. 526 Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United State and Canada pp. 65 Macmillan: Living in the Americas pp. 12-15; 100 Outline maps Classroom Atlas

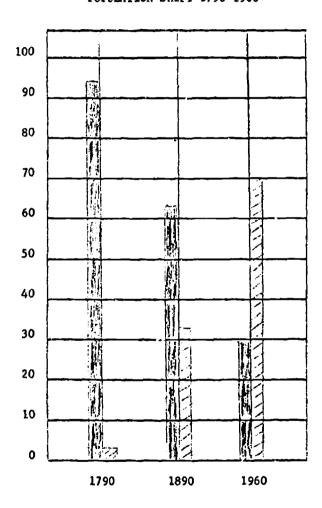


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QUESTIONS	SUGGEST	ED ACTIVIT	CIES	MATERIALS
	Make a figures	graph from	these	
	<u>Date</u> 1790	<u>Urban</u> 5%	<u>Rural</u> 95%	
	1890 1960	35% 70%	65% 30%	
		ct a popul Canada and States.		



POPULATION SHIFT 1790-1960





rural



urban

Where did wost people in the United States live in 1790? Where do most live today? Why do you think so many have shifted to cities? How can we find out?



242-247

<u>Development of Unit</u> (cont'd.)

Questions	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
New has population distribution been in + fluenced by	Where are people concentrated? Use Classroom Atlas pp. 28-29 Locate the places of greatest	Macmillan: In the Americas pp. 12-15; 90
climate, topography, and natural resources?	density of population. Find these same areas on the physical relief map. What do you notice about the land forms? Now find these same areas on the rainfall and temperature maps.	
	Now study the natural vegetation map of these same areas. See if the class can distinguish the relationahips	
	between population concentration and land forms, climate, and natural vegetation.	
	Elicit the ideas that people in the United States and Canada live in areas of: 1. fairly level land 2. moderate climate 3. sufficient rainfall for crops	
	4. good natural resources 5. near harbors, lakes, rivers coasts	
How were excellent transportation and communication facili-	Have the class read their texts to discover how trans-continental railroads and roads were developed.	Holt, Rinehart & Winston: In the United States and Canada pp. 61
ties developed	Have groups investigate and	62;210;212;

report on the development of:

Chicago Boat Cana¹

St. Lawrence Seaway Tennessee Valley waterway

Waterways

Erie Canal

network

Canals



in spite of

tremendous physical ob-

stacles in

Canada and the United

States?

QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS
How has the interrelation-ship of the people with the physical characteristics resulted in the development of large cities and metropolitan areas in Canada and the United States?	Transcontinental railroads in the United States Transcontinental railroads in Canada Roads in the United States Roads in Canada Construct maps showing principal railroads, roads, and air routes of the United States and Canada Locate some of the largest cities in the U.S. and Canada? Show some of the filmstrips listed. Follow each showing by a discussion. Why did these cities develop where they did? Review the idea of a metropolitan area. What is it? What causes it? (This was developed in Grade 4.) Construct an individual map to show the location of the largest and most important cities and metropolitan areas. Each child may select a city for a report.	Wall map of North America Filmstrips SS-C-4-e Vancouver SS-C-33-h Cities in Canada SS-M-1-a Cities of Western United States SS-M-1-b Cities of Middle West SS-M-1-c Cities of South SS-M-1-d Cities of Eastern United States SS-M-1-e City of Washington Outline maps.

OTHER SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. The state of th

- 1. Keep a dictionary of geography terms.
- Keep individual atlases and scrapbooks of materials pertinent to the study.

EVALUATION

- Can the children locate and identify the outstanding physical and topographical features of the United States and Canada?
- 2. Are they familiar with the different types of land forms found in Carada and the United States?
- 3. Is there an understanding of the factors that influence climate and weather in the United States and Canada?
- 4. Is there an awareness of the extent to which people in Canada and the United States have developed their living in the different envoluments of both countries?
- 5. Are they familiar with the pattern of population distribution?
- 6. Do they understand the factors that influence population distribution?
- 7. Do they understand the way people mold the landscape?
- 8. Are the children aware of the fact that interrelatedness between people and physical envoirnment exists?
- 9. Do they have an appreciation of the great obstacles that had to be overcome in building a great transcontinental transportation and communication system?
- 10. Do they realize what factors influenced the location and development of the largest cities and metropolitan regions of Canada and the United States?
- 11. Do they understand why Providence has developed where it is?



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VII. APPENDIX

CRGSS SECTION OF GREAT LAKES

